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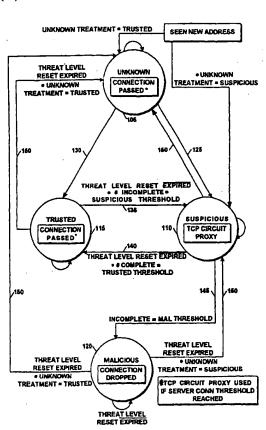
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(54) Title: SYSTEM AND PROCESS FOR DEFENDING AGAINST DENIAL OF SERVICE ATTACKS ON NETWORK NODES



(57) Abstract: The present invention is a network switch that maintains a relatively lightly loaded state, and at the same time protects the network servers from DOS and DDOS attacks. The switch maintains a very large table of IP addresses where it stores information such as the number of incompleted and completed connections from each address. Using this information, the switch classifies each address into a threat level: unknown, trusted, suspicious, and malicious. Each threat level is treated differently allowing the switch to provide efficient access to the server while maintaining security. Connection to the server is denied to clients classified as malicious while trusted clients are passed through to the server. Suspicious connections are proxied while unknown connection treatment may be set by the user.

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC 7 H04L29/06 H04L H04L12/56 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC B. FIELDS SEARCHED Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) IPC 7 HO4L Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used) EPO-Internal C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Relevant to claim No. Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages WO 99 48303 A (CISCO TECH IND) 1,3,6, 23 September 1999 (1999-09-23) 8-10 abstract; figures 4,2 page 2, line 31 -page 3, line 22 2,4,5 page 7, line 21 -page 9, line 17 SCHUBA C L ET AL: "Analysis of a denial 6-9 χ of service attack on TCP" SECURITY AND PRIVACY, 1997. PROCEEDINGS., 1997 IEEE SYMPOSIUM ON OAKLAND, CA, USA 4-7 MAY 1997, LOS ALAMITOS, CA, USA, IEEE COMPUT. SOC, US, 4 May 1997 (1997-05-04), pages 208-223, XP010230160 ISBN: 0-8186-7828-3 abstract paragraphs '0004!,'0005! -/--Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. Patent family members are listed in annex. Special categories of cited documents : "T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the "A" document defining the general state of the lart which is not considered to be of particular relevance 'E' earlier document but published on or after the international "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention filing date cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such docu-"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or ments, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art. document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed "&" document member of the same patent family Date of the actual completion of the international search Date of mailing of the international search report 19/02/2002 13 February 2002 Name and mailing address of the ISA Authorized officer European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl. Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016 Figiel, B

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